

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /140 W

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R 071730Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6088

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAKAR 1209

EO 11652N/A

TAGS: PGOV SG

SUBJ: RELEASE MAMADOU DIA APPEARS IMMINENT

REF: DAKAR 947

SUMMARY: NOW APPEARS PROBABLE THAT ANNOUNCEMENT OF
RELEASE EX-PRIME MINISTER DIA, FORMER MINISTER INTERIOR
VALDIODIO N'DIAYE AND MINISTER LABOR AND DEVELOPMENT
IBRAHIMA SARR WILL BE MADE ON OR BEFORE SENEGALESE
INDEPENDENCE DAY APRIL 4. END SUMMARY.

1. RUMORS IMPENDING POLITICAL CHANGE REACHING CRESCENDO
PROPORTIONS IN DAKAR. AT PRESS CONFERENCE MARCH 6,
MINISTER INFORMATION DAOUDA SOW ASKED SHED LIGHT ON POSSIBLE
RELEASE POLITICAL PRISONERS HELD IN KEDOUGOU RESPONDED:
"I HAVE NO RECENT INFORMATION ON WHAT HAS BEEN ADVANCED, TO
WIT THE FORMATION IN THE NEAR FUTURE OF A NATIONAL
COMMITTEE OF RECONCILIATION W VCH WOULD REGROUP THE LEFT,
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THE RELIGIOUS CHIEFS ETC... WHAT I CAN SAY ON THIS SUBJECT

IS THAT THE CHIEF OF STATE IS ENTITLED (HABILITE) TO
ACCORD HIS PARDON. THEREFORE WAIT AND SEE." LAST THREE
WORDS SPOKEN IN ENGLISH.

2. AT SAME PRESS CONFERENCE, SOW WAS ASKED ABOUT RUMOR
MAGATTE LO RESIGNING HIS PORTFOLIO. SOW'S RESPONSE WAS LESS
THAN RINGING AFFIRMATION OF LO'S SOLIDARITY WITH GOVERNMENT:
"ALL THAT I CAN TELL YOU...IS THAT THE MINISTER IN
QUESTION ATTENDED THE LAST CABINET MEETING IN HIS CAPACITY
AS MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF RELATIONS WITH THE
ASSEMBLIES".

3. SEVERAL WELL-PLACE SENEGALESE SOURCES HAVE CONFIRMED
THAT BOTH DIA AND VALDIODIO N'DIAYE ARE CURRENTLY IN DAKAR
IN SPECIAL WING OF LE DANTEC HOSPITAL. ONE SOURCE STATES
THAT IN EFFECT THEY ALREADY RELEASED FROM PRISON. DIA HAS
ALSO REPORTEDLY SIGNALLED TO SENGHOR HIS WILLINGNESS SERVE
UPS AND GOS.

4. NAMES OF FORMER AIR AFRIQUE PRESIDENT CHEIKH FALL
AND CHEIKH ANTA DIOP BEING RAISED AS POSSIBLE MEMBERS OF
RECONCILIATION COMMISSION. FALL WELL KNOWN FOR HIS
ABORTIVE SHADOW CAMPAIGN FOR PRESIDENCY LAST YEAR. DIOP
IS HISTORIAN AND OPPOSITION FIGURE WITH LINKS TO BOTH
MOURIDES AND LEFTIST PARTI AFRICAINE D'INDEPENDANCE.

5. COMMENT: MAGATTE LO CLEARLY IN ECLIPS. RELEASE
OF DIA IS BOUND TO BRING SOONER OR LATER FURTHER POLITICAL
ADJUSTMENTS, WHETHER OR NOT NATIONAL RECONCILIATION
COMMISSION EVER MATERIALIZES.
AGGREY

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